REMARKS

The claims remaining in the present application are Claims 1-20. The Examiner is thanked for performing a thorough search. Claims 1 and 14 have been amended. No new matter has been added.

CLAIM REJECTIONS

35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1-7 and 14-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,317,845 by Meyer et al. (referred to hereinafter as "Meyer"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Currently amended independent Claim 1 recites, "A computer implemented method of automatic software testing comprising:

storing status information of a software test running on a test system to a common information point;

automatically reinstalling an operating system on said test system;

querying said common information point to determine said status information; and

resuming said software test."

Applicant respectfully asserts that Meyer fails to teach or suggest, "storing status information of a software test running

on a test system to a common information point; automatically installing an operating system on said test system; querying said common information point to determine said status information; and resuming said software test," as recited by Claim 1. The instant application with serial no. 10/685,990 provides support for "automatically reinstalling" at the first paragraph of page 9 which states "Likewise, it may be desirable to change operating systems in a controlled and automated manner during testing."

Meyers teaches a way for a user to restart a computer by manually inserting a removable high capacity disk into the computer. For example, Meyers states in the abstract, "In the event that a user encounters an abnormal operating condition, the user inserts the removable high capacity disk into the computer and restarts the computer."

The Office Action asserts that Meyers teaches "storing status information of a software test running on a test system to a common information point" in the abstract. Applicant is uncertain what in Meyer's abstract the Office Action is referring to. For the sake of argument, Applicant shall assume that the Office Action is referring to the abstract's statement, "The removable high capacity disk also includes a suite of software recovery software which attempt to ascertain and

correct the cause of the abnormal operating condition to return the computer system to a normal operating condition." However, this portion of the abstract does not teach "storing," "a software test," or "a common information point," let alone teach or suggest "storing status information of a software test running on a test system to a common information point"

The Office Action also asserted that Meyers teaches "storing status information of a software test running on a test system to a common information point" at unit 108 of FIG. 2. Meyers discusses unit 108 in the second paragraph of Col. 13, which states,

> Referring back to FIG. 2, once the GUI is launched the user is prompted to proceed with the recovery process at step 108. …The user is prompted to run simple, easy to-use restore and rescue applications within the operating environment of the graphical user interface. The recovery applications may detect and repair, for example, invalid CMOS settings, missing or corrupted system files, partition problems, boot sector problems, file allocation errors, and directory structure errors

The second paragraph of Col. 13 in Meyers discusses recovery applications but fails to teach or suggest "software test," "common information point," "storing" let alone teach or suggest "storing status information of a software test running on a test system to a common information point."

The Office Action asserts that Meyers teaches "automatically reinstalling an operating system on said test system," in the abstract. However, Meyers makes no mention of a test system in the abstract. Further, Meyers requires that a user manually insert a removable high capacity disk into the computer and manually restart the computer.

The Office Action also asserts that Meyers teaches "automatically reinstalling an operating system on said test system," with unit 106 depicted in FIG. 2. Meyers discusses unit 106 at Col. 12 lines 20-47. In Col. 12 lines 20-47 Meyers states several times that the user inserts the high capacity disk and the user restarts the computer. Therefore, Meyers does not teach or suggest "automatically reinstalling an operating system on said test system."

The Office Action asserts that Meyers teaches "querying said common information point to determine said status information" in the abstract and with unit 110 of FIG. 2. However, as already explained herein Meyers fails to teach "a common information point" in the abstract. Meyers discusses step 110 at Col. 13 lines 37-40 which state, "If at step 110 it is determined that the error has been corrected, then at step 112, the user is prompted to restart the computer in the normal manner (i.e., boot from the hard drive)." As can be seen, Col. 13 lines

37-40 say nothing about "querying said common information point to determine said status information." Further, since Meyers fails to teach "storing status information of a software test running on a test system to a common information point" Meyers cannot teach or suggest "querying said common information point to determine said status information."

The Office Action asserts that Meyers teaches "resuming said software test," in the abstract and at unit 116 of FIG. 2. However, Meyers does not teach "software test" anywhere let alone teach "resuming said software test."

For the foregoing reasons, Claim 1 is respectfully believed to be patentable over Meyer and Applicant respectfully requests allowance of Claim 1. Further, the claims that depend on Claim 1 also recite features which further make these dependent claims patentable over Meyer. For example, Claim 7 recites "said test system is running a different operating system subsequent to said reinstalling than said test system was running prior to said reinstalling." Note Meyer does not teach anything about different operating systems or reinstalling operating systems let alone "…running a different operating system subsequent to said reinstalling…" Claims 2-7 depend from Claim 1, which is respectfully believed to be allowable for reasons discussed

herein. Therefore Claims 2-7 are believed to be allowable by
virtue of their dependencies.

Independent Claim 14 is believed to be allowable over Meyer
for similar reasons that Claim 1 is believed to be allowable
over Meyer. Claims 15-20 depend on Claim 14 and include
additional limitations. Therefore, Claims 15-20 are believed to
be patentable over Meyer for at least the reasons that Claim 14
is believed to be allowable over Meyer.

Claims 8-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) as being
anticipated by U.S. Patent Application Publication
2003/0051186 by Boudnik et al. (referred to hereinafter as
"Boudnik"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Independent Claim 8 recites, "A computer implemented
method of automatic software testing comprising:
        installing test driver software on a plurality of
test systems;
        providing a mapping of a plurality of virtual test
system names to real test system names to said test
driver software; and
        gathering test results from said plurality of test
systems."

Applicant respectfully asserts that Bournik does not teach or suggest, among other things, "providing a mapping of a plurality of virtual test system names to real test system names to said test driver software," as recited by Claim 8.

Although Boudnik teaches the use of a Java virtual machine, Boudnik does not teach "providing a mapping of a plurality of virtual test system names to real test system names to said test driver software," as recited by Claim 8. Boudnik only teaches the use of one virtual machine, a Java virtual machine. Therefore Boudnik cannot teach "providing a mapping of a plurality of virtual test system names to real test system names to said test driver software," as recited by Claim 8.

The Office Action asserts that Boudnik teaches "providing a mapping of a plurality of virtual test system names to real test system names to said test driver software" at FIG. 6, Fig. 5, unit 500, FIG. 8, unit 812. However, FIG. 6 depicts a post mortem object which includes test suite names 600, work directory name 602, result directory name 604, point of execution 606, and system name 608. Among other things, there is nothing in FIG. 6 about virtual test system names. Therefore, FIG. 6 cannot teach or suggest "providing a mapping

of a plurality of virtual test system names to real test system names to said test driver software."

FIG. 5 depicts a test system 114 that includes an agent process and a test harness 502. The agent process 120 communicates with a post mortem object 508 and a system controller 108. However, FIG. 5 depicts nothing about a mapping let alone teaches or suggests "providing a mapping of a plurality of virtual test system names to real test system names to said test driver software."

Unit 812 of FIG. 8 is discussed in paragraph 0084, which states,

> The agent process then receives the test execution information from the test harness, in operation 812. In response to receiving the information request, the test harness provides the test execution information to the agent process. As mentioned above, the test execution information includes the current point of execution within the suite. As a result, the agent process can determine which tests are currently executing. To facilitate the two-way communication between the test harness and the agent process, embodiments of the present invention can utilize a user design service (UDS). The UDS is an interface configuration, which allows two-way communication between an agent process and a launched application.

As a result, the UDS allows enhanced test execution management. As can be seen, there is nothing in paragraph 0084 which discusses operation 812 about "providing a mapping

of a plurality of virtual test system names to real test system names to said test driver software."

In the response to arguments section, the Office Action states, "Boudnik clearly discloses 'providing a mapping of a plurality of virtual system names to real test system names to test driver software' in fig. 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, where Boudnik uses Java (virtual software) to identify (mapping) each objects (fig. 4, unit 906) and each object is link to hardness (real system information) information list on fig. Fig. 5 and 4." As already stated, FIGS. 5, 6, and 8 do not teach or disclose "mapping of a plurality of virtual test system names to real test system names." Paragraph 0065 states concerning FIG. 4 "The test configuration 400 includes a test suite comprising a test list 402 having a plurality of individual tests 404." Therefore FIG. 4 does not teach or suggest "mapping of a plurality of virtual test system names to real test system names." In regards to operation 902, paragraph 0090 of Bourdnik states, "In operation 902, the agent process refers to the JavaSpace of the system…..JavaSpaces technology provides developers with the ability to create and store objects with persistence, which allows for process integrity." Therefore, paragraph 0090 does not teach or suggest "mapping of a plurality of virtual test system names to real test system names" either.

For the foregoing reasons, Claim 8 is respectfully believed to be patentable over Boudnik and Applicant respectfully requests allowance of Claim 8. Claims 9-13 depend from Claim 8, which is respectfully believed to be allowable for reasons discussed herein. Therefore Claims 9-13 are believed to be allowable by virtue of their dependencies.
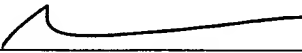
CONCLUSION

In light of the above listed amendments and remarks, reconsideration of the rejected claims is requested. Based on the arguments and amendments presented above, it is respectfully submitted that Claims 1-20 overcome the rejections of record. For reasons discussed herein, Applicant respectfully requests that Claims 1-20 be considered be the Examiner. Therefore, allowance of Claims 1-20 is respectfully solicited.

Should the Examiner have a question regarding the instant amendment and response, the Applicant invites the Examiner to contact the Applicant's undersigned representative at the below listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
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